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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY      REPORT

INFORMATION FROM      CD NO.

FOREIGN DOCUMENTS OR RADIO BROADCASTS

50X1-HUM

COUNTRY      Hungary

SUBJECT      Sociological - Education

HOW  
PUBLISHED      Daily newspapers, irregular pamphlet

WHERE  
PUBLISHED      Hungary; Stockholm

DATE  
PUBLISHED      4 Apr - 5 Aug 1950

LANGUAGE      Hungarian; Italian; Swedish

DATE OF  
INFORMATION      1950

DATE DIST.      16 Sep 1950

NO. OF PAGES      2

SUPPLEMENT TO  
REPORT NO.

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SCHOOLS STEP UP WORKER TRAINING

NEW SCHOOLS TO OPEN UNDER 5-YEAR PLAN -- Budapest Bolletino Ungherese,  
4 Apr. 50

Prior to 1945, Hungary's school system was patterned on the continental double-approach system. At 10 years of age, when they completed the 4-year elementary school, the children of the working classes continued their education either in the fifth and sixth grades of the elementary school or in the 4-year city schools. Because of high tuition fees and other expenses, only a small percentage of the children went to the 8-year gymnasium preparatory to entering a university.

In 1945, the Hungarian government introduced an 8-year general school, in which all children were to receive the same basic culture, by means of the same educational material, based on the same textbooks. A reform of the secondary schools and universities followed in 1948-49. On graduating from the 8-year general school, the child may now enter one of the following specialized 4-year courses of instruction: general gymnasium, industrial gymnasium, agricultural gymnasium, economic gymnasium, or pedagogic gymnasium.

In 1945, another new type of educational institution, called college, was created. In these colleges, pupils from the general and secondary school receive free instruction, room, and board.

In the 1949-50 school year, 25,200 pupils were housed, fed, and educated in the colleges.

Institutions of higher learning have been increased in number, enlarged, and modernized, schools of engineering receiving most of the attention. At present, there are four scientific, two technical, one economic and one agricultural university in Hungary. In addition, there are eight other institutions of higher learning, such as the Academy of Music, Academy of Fine Arts, etc.

Another new educational institution is the workers' school. It furnishes secondary school instruction to adults and consists of a 12-month course leading to the degree of "maturity."

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Before 1950, 50 percent of the elementary schools in Hungary were maintained and operated by the churches, mostly by the Catholic Church. In 1948, 4,564 of these schools, including 2,794 Catholic, 1,097 Calvinist, and 385 Lutheran schools, were taken over by the state. In addition, 52 Catholic, 20 Calvinist, 11 Lutheran and 3 Jewish secondary schools were nationalized. At present, there are 90 Calvinist, two Lutheran, and two Jewish secondary schools under religious direction. The Catholic Church refused to participate in the pact and all its schools have been nationalized. The state schools permit the students to receive 2 hours of religious instruction per week.

The Five-Year Plan provides for an increase in the number of elementary school teachers from the present 50,000 to 62,000. New gymnasiums are to be opened, especially in the mining and industrial districts, and the number of secondary school students will be increased to 45,000.

Under the Five-Year Plan, a total of 377 million forints will be invested in institutions of higher learning, and the number of university students is to be increased to 8,000. The Five-Year Plan also provides investments of 135 million forints for colleges and 177.5 million forints for scientific research. It is expected that during the next 5 years 10,000 engineers and 160,000 agricultural specialists will graduate from the universities.

Scientists are paid a monthly salary, to enable them to devote their full time to research. In 1950, a new pay scale was established for teachers and doctors, raising their salaries by 40-50 percent.

#### MORE TRAINEES IN HEAVY INDUSTRY -- Budapest Szabad Nep, 20 Jun 50

More workers are being trained for heavy industry in order to meet the goals set by the Five-Year Plan. In the past, each industry or enterprise trained its own workers, but now the Ministry of Heavy Industry is providing for the indoctrination of workers in heavy industry for advanced training of senior employees. The number taking part in the training program is now 50 percent higher than last year, representing an increase of more than 10,000 workers in all industries.

#### TO CLOSE THEOLOGICAL FACULTIES -- Stockholm Morgon Tidningen, 5 Aug 50

The Vatican radio has reported from Budapest that the Hungarian government has decided to close all theological faculties. Religious teaching will in future be restricted to the churches, the report said. Vatican radio added it was feared that this step was a prelude to the setting up of Communist theological faculties working toward a Communist program, as had been done in Czechoslovakia.

Among the faculties to be closed are the Catholic faculty at the University of Budapest, the Reformed faculty at Debreczen, and the Evangelical faculty.

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